Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Only a rough cost report.

Teak Plantation.

22. **Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what the working of the Teak Plantation cost the Government last year;

(b) how many teak saplings there were in the said plantations on 1st Chingam 1106 of from one year's to ten years' growth;

(c) how many years hence teak saplings of one year's growth at present will attain their full growth and be mature for felling?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(a) Rs. 14,567—11—5.

(b) It is impracticable to collect the particulars in a short time.

(c) More or less 150 years hence.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—May I know whether registers are maintained in the Forest Office showing the age of teak saplings planted from year to year?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Yes.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—Are returns submitted to the Huzur Office quarterly, half-yearly or yearly?

Mr K. Ramunni Menon.—No returns.

Adoor Leper Asylum.

23. **Mr. A. B. Salem.**—(1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have considered the objections raised on the floor of this House to the handing over of the management of the Asylum to a proselytising religious body such as the Salvation Army;

(2) will the Government be pleased to state what facts incapacitate them from managing the Asylum themselves;

(3) will the Government be pleased to state the total cost of this Asylum;

(4) what are the difficulties in the way of managing it on non-sectarian or non-religious lines and in the same manner as other hospitals are managed in the State?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) Government have considered all the aspects of the question.

(2) It is not a question of incapacity of Government; but the element of self-sacrifice which is so essential for the management of a Leper Asylum and which will be lacking under Government management.

(3) Rs. 1,00,517—4—9.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(4) It will be managed on non-sectarian lines; vide also answer (2).

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know what is the measure of that self-sacrifice needed in the doctor. to look after the lepers ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I do not know of any measure of self-sacrifice.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know whether there are no doctors here who are sympathetic enough or whether the Department cannot find a doctor sympathetic enough to look after lepers ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is not a question of any individual doctor. It is a question in which anybody who is out in the world to do self-sacrificing work is entrusted to do this work. There may be individuals who would be self-sacrificing.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That was not my question. My question was whether the Department or the Government of Cochin could not find a self-sacrificing and sympathetic doctor, sufficiently self-sacrificing to look after the lepers, either from the service or from outside in Cochin.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Government have not been able to find out.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Has the Government advertised for finding out men ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No. It is not a question of finding out men. It is a question of finding out men with sufficient self-sacrificing spirit.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Is this answer based upon any experence ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—O, yes. Experience of mine and of the British Government and the whole world.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Is this self-sacrifice to be found in the individuals proposed ? Do you know anything about the individuals proposed to be in charge? Is the Government aware of the measure of self-sacrifice possessed by the individuals of this institution who would probably come there ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.— I do not know exactly the nature of the individuals who would come there. But I know they belong to a body whose principle is to do selfless social service.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Are there not bodies inside Cochin State who are doing such self-sacrificing work, such as the Roman Catholic institution, the Orphanage and others ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I am not aware of any body in Cochin State who is experienced in doing work of this kind.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly